

THE
CONDEMNATION,
BEHAVIOUR,
Last Dying Words
AND
EXECUTION
OF

Algernon Sidney, Esq;

Who was Beheaded the 7th of this Instant
December, 1683. on a Scaffold on Tower-
Hill for High-Treason, in Conspiring
the Death of His Majesty, and to Sub-
vert the Government, as by Law Esta-
blished, &c.

Algernon Sidney Esq; having been Impeached, Apprehended and
Committed to the *Tower of London* for High Treason, in Conspi-
ring the Death of the King, and to Subvert the Government, &c.
was on the 7th of November, 1683. Arraigned upon an Indict-
ment for the same at the *Kings Bench Bar* at *Westminster*, and af-
ter divers Objections, Pleaded *Not Guilty*, whereupon on the 21st
of the said Month, he was brought to that Bar in Order to his Tryal, when as
a Jury being Summoned, and he for divers Causes, to himself best known, ha-
ving accepted against 34, 12 being Sworn, Mr. *John Anger* Foreman, his Indict-
ment was Read, Importing that he, as a false Traytor of our Sovereign Lord
the King, had on the 30th of *June* last, and at divers other times, together with
divers other false Traytors in the Parish of *St. Giles* in the Fields, Conspired the
Death of our said Sovereign Lord the King, to Raise Rebellion, Leavy War, a
Miserable Slaughter amongst his Subjects to make, and to Subvert the Ancient
Government of this Kingdome, to which Intent he had sent one *Aron Smith* into
Scotland, and Written, or caused to be Written, a Traiterous and Seditious Libel,
Conteining divers Treasons, &c. upon which, the Indictment by the Kings
Council being Opened, and the Plot to the Purpose aforesaid Proved in General
by Mr. *West*, Colonel *Rumsey* and Mr. *Keeling*, the Lord *Howard* Sworn, Depo-
sed that the Prisoner, viz. *Algernon Sidney* was at divers Consults where it was
debated to Levy War, to raise Rebellion, and the Ancient Government of this
Kingdome to Subvert, and that at one of them he did Declare for a Common-
Wealth, saying, all Private Interests ought to be Subjected to the Publick, and
the People thereof satisfied, that they might know the better what they Fought
for, and be the more Resolute, for if it should be again Settled in a Monarchy,
it would come to Fighting over again in Six or Seaven Year, or to this Effect.
That he sent one *Aron Smith* into *Scotland* to stir up Divers Ilminded and Dis-
affected Persons of that Kingdome to Insurrection and Rebellion, and that he had
declared he gave the said *Smith* 60 Guineas to bear his Charges, &c.

And

And by Sir Philip Lloyd it was Proved, That a Treasonable Libel, (part of which was Specified in the Indictment, tending to the overthrow of Monarchy, and Establishing the Power in the People, &c.) was upon Search, found in his Closet, or Room, and the said Libel Proved in Court by divers, to be his Hand, he was, notwithstanding several Allegations, upon the Summing up of the Evidence, and the Charge given, found Guilty of the said High-Treason, and Remanded to the Tower: From whence, on the 20th of November, he was again brought to the Bar of the Court of Kings-Bench, in order to receive Sentence of Death, as the Law in case of High-Treason requires, at which time he Objected against the Legality of the Jurors, for that some of them were not Free-Holders in the County, and that, as he had been informed, they were not Impaneled as they ought, but being by the Court informed of the Legality of both, he desired, that he might have a Copy of his Indictment, and time to consider of it, that he had Points of Law to offer, and the like, but being Over-ruled in what he said, as to the stay of Judgment, he received this following Sentence, viz. *That he should be Conveyed to the place from whence he came, from thence to the place of Execution, there to be Hanged by the Neck; Cut down alive, his Privy Members Cut off, Bowels taken out and burnt in his sight, his Head to be Severed from his Body, his Body divided into Four Parts, and they to be disposed of at the pleasure of the King.* After which he was Remanded to the Tower, where he continued, in order to his preparation for Death, and after some time, Petitioned for divers things, but his Petition was not Answered according to his Expectation. Yet during the Intervene, His Majesty was pleased, in consideration of his Noble Descent, to change the Sentence aforesaid, into a Beheading only; whereupon, after a long continued Contrition for his many Infirmities, the Warrant was Signed for his Execution, and directed to the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, who according to the Date specified for the Execution, went, attended by their Officers, and demanded the Prisoner; at which time, they received Answer, he should be presently delivered, when about Nine in the Morning the Sheriffs came upon the Scaffold, which was surrounded by Four Companies of His Majesties Foot Guards, and the Hamlet-Warders, and soon after, the Lieutenant of the Tower sent to acquaint the Sheriffs, the Prisoner was ready, whereupon they went, and received him at the Turn-Pikes, and Conveyed him to the Scaffold on Tower-Hill, where the late Lord Stafford was Beheaded, on which being Mounted, he Bowed Twice to the People; and then having Liberty to declare his Mind, he turned to the Sheriffs, and told them, That he intended not to make any Speech, and thereupon delivering a Paper to them, he told them, What he thought fit to leave behind him, was contained therein; delivering at the same time another Paper to a Gentleman, supposed to be the same with the former, whereupon he turned to the Executioner, and gave him Money, then Traversing the Scaffold, he Kneeled on the South-side, and Prayed to himself, when Rising, he took off his Coat, Hat and Wig, and gave them to his Servants, of whom, and of his Friends present, having taken leave, and Ordered the Executioner to take his own time, without expecting any Sign, he layed down his Head, and had it struck off at One Blow, all but a small matter of Flesh, which the Executioner sundred with his Knife, and held it up, as is usual in such Cases, the Body at the time of the Stroak scarcely moving. Execution done, the Sheriffs told his Servants, That his Body was given them by His Majesties Bounty, to dispose of as they thought fit. Whereupon they put it into a Mourning-Coffin, brought thither for that purpose, and conveyed it thence, in order to its Interment.

Entred according to Order.

F I N I S.

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